

10/26/05

Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW, Room TW-A325  
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Commission,

I support retaining the Morse code requirement. I personally don't use telegraphy as my preferred mode, but it has saved me several times when trying to have communications when conditions were too poor for phone. If we ever have to deal with a nuclear blast, electro-magnetic pulse could destroy any radio connected to any wiring. To get back on the air may require some jumping through hoops. I've built some homebrew gear, and the simplest to make is for telegraphy. If you know Morse code, you can use it with benefit. If you don't, then it's not an option, so I concur with the Lowrance Petition's view.

I also concur with the FISTS petition, and believe that General class should be knowledgeable of telegraphy, at at least 5 words per minute. I would also be agreeable with telegraphy becoming an Extra class only requirement, but at a higher speed than 5 wpm, which is too slow to do much communicating. I feel that a 5 wpm Extra class license does not hold with the spirit of the top license level of expertise and proficiency.

I believe that most people respect and appreciate the Amateur Service when they have to earn their entry by some time and effort in learning. I do not believe that doing away with the code requirement will benefit our hobby in the long-term. While we may get some new recruits to boost numbers, what will we get? We need people that are quality, and are of benefit to the group. I doubt that people who are unwilling to put in a few days of effort will contribute positively and meaningfully to our ranks.

In closing, please RETAIN TELEGRAPHY! Just because other countries are going this way, doesn't mean we need to, also.

Sincerely,

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